

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
EB-08 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00
ACDA-07 PA-01 PRS-01 CEQ-01 EPA-01 NSF-01 DOTE-00
CU-02 /113 W

-----171430Z 081195 /42

O P 171335Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6004
INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 2024

USMISSION NATO PASS DAVID SWARTZ

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ECE, CSCE, UR, PFOR, SENV, ETRN, ENRG
SUBJECT: CSCE BASKET II - SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR ALL-EUROPEAN
CONGRESSES ON ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND ENERGY

REF: GENEVA 1969

1. SOVIET MISSION GENEVA DELIVERED TO ECE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
STANOVNIK MARCH 16 SECOND LETTER ON SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR ALL-
EUROPEAN CONGRESSES ON ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND ENERGY.
LETTER WAS DELIVERED TO MISSION THIS MORNING BY SOVIET
AMBASSADOR, WHO SAID THAT US, AS "MOST NEGATIVE" TO SOVIET
PROPOSAL WAS FIRST TO RECEIVE A COPY HERE. SOVIET REPS SAID
LETTER, WHICH WAS ALSO TO BE DELIVERED TODAY TO DEPARTMENT
AND EMBASSY MOSCOW, WAS DESIGNED TO BE RESPONSIBLE TO US
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POSITION THAT PROPOSAL SHOULD BE PRESENTED ON BUSINESSLIKE
BASIS, FREE FROM PROPAGANDA, (I.E., WITH FULL DETAILS AND
RATIONALE) AND THAT ECE SHOULD BE FULLY INVOLVED.
WE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR GREATER DETAIL ON PROPOSAL
WHICH WE WERE SURE OUR SUTHORITIES WOULD STUDY
CAREFULLY.

2. ANNEX TO LETTER CONTAINS EIGHT PAGES OF PROPOSAL TOPICS AND COMMENTARY THEREON. IN TERMS OF ECE ROLE, LETTER STATES THAT "CONGRESSES OR CONFERENCES COULD BE PREPARED AND HELD" EITHER "THROUGH THE INSTRUMENTALITY OF THE ECE OR WITH AD HOC INTERNATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEES SET UP" BUT THAT "IN ANY CASE THE SOVIET SIDE BELIEVES THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT AND USE TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT THE EXPERIENCE AND MACHINERY OF THE ECE." SOVIET REPS INDICATED THAT WHILE STILL SKEPTICAL OF ABILITY OF ECE TO PRODUCE RESULTS ON POLICY LEVEL, THEY WERE OPEN TO CONSIDER MAXIMUM POSSIBLE (OR NECESSARY) ECE INVOLVEMENT.

3. UK MISSION OFFICER ADVISES THAT EC MEMBERS AGREED AT POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING LONDON MARCH 15 ON TEXT OF LETTER TO STANOVNIK ON SOVIET PROPOSALS. (WE UNDERSTAND TEXT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ECONADS.) EC NOW IN QUANDRY WHETHER TO DELIVER LETTER TO STANOVNIK PRIOR SOVIET AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON UK AMBASSADOR GENEVA AT "TEA TIME" TODAY. MISSION OFFICER WILL MEET WITH UK MISSION OFFICER LATER IN AFTERNOON AND WILL ADVISE RE OUTCOME.

4. TEXT OF SOVIET LETTER FOLLOWS. (SPRINGER WILL CARRY COPY WITH ANNEXES TO ECONADS CSCE BASKET II EXPERTS MEETING MARCH 21. WE PRESUME ANNEXES HAVE BEEN OR WILL SOON BE PROVIDED TO DEPARTMENT BY SOVIET EMBASSY WASHINGTON.)

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5. BEGIN TEXT:

TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE U.N. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

IN CONNECTION WITH DECISION B(XXXI) ADOPTED BY THE U.N. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE ON APRIL 9, 1976 WITH REGARD TO THE SOVIET UNION'S PROPOSAL TO HOLD ALL-EUROPEAN CONGRESSES OR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT AND ENERGY AND IN ELABORATION OF THE VIEWS COMMUNICATED EARLIER TO YOU ON THIS SUBJECT, THE SOVIET SIDE DEEMS IT EXPEDIENT TO EXPRESS, IN GREATER DETAIL, ITS OPINION ON CERTAIN MATTERS WHICH HAVE ARISEN IN THE COURSE OF THE DISCUSSION OF THE SAID PROPOSAL AND IN THE PROCESS OF THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS THROUGH BILATERAL CHANNELS.

IN ADVANCING THE IDEA OF HOLDING ALL-EUROPEAN CONGRESSES OR INTER-STATE CONFERENCES ON THE ABOVE QUESTIONS, THE SOVIET UNION PROCEEDED FROM THE PREMISE THAT THE COUNTRIES OF EUROPE AS WELL

AS THE USA AND CANADA WERE OBJECTIVELY INTERESTED IN JOINT ACTIONS ON A NUMBER OF URGENT SOCIO-ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL PROBLEMS WHICH COULD NOT BE SOLVED EFFECTIVELY ENOUGH SOLELY AT A NATIONAL OR EVEN SUBREGIONAL LEVEL. IT IS THIS APPROACH TO THE PROBLEMS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT AND ENERGY THAT IS REFLECTED IN THE FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE. HENCE, ALL THE STATES PARTICIPANTS IN THE CONFERENCE AGREE TO SUCH AN APPROACH, AND NOW THE TASK IS TO SECURE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNDERSTANDINGS THAT HAVE BEEN REACHED.

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CU-02 /113 W

-----171429Z 081368 /42

O P 171335Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6005
INFO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 GENEVA 2024

USMISSION NATO PASS DAVID SWARTZ

THE SOVIET SIDE REGARDS THE PROPOSED CONGRESSES PRECISELY AS INTER-STATE FORUMS WHICH COULD GIVE IMPETUS TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNDERSTANDINGS CONTAINED IN THE FINAL ACT RELATING TO COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT AND ENERGY. THEIR MAIN OBJECTIVE WOULD BE TO FURTHER THE TRANSLATION OF THE ACCORDS IN PRINCIPLE ON SUCH COOPERATION INTO PRACTICAL DEEDS, STIMULATE IN THIS SENSE THE DEVELOPMENT OF CO-OPERATION AMONG STATES AND THUS CREATE MOST FAVOURABLE CONDITIONS FOR MAKING USE IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WELL-BEING OF EUROPEAN NATIONS OF NEW BROAD OPPORTUNITIES

OPENED UP AS A RESULT OF THE ALL-EUROPEAN CONFERENCE.

THE CONGRESSES OR INTER-STATE CONFERENCES COULD, IN OUR VIEW, EXAMINE THE ACTUAL STATE OF CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE IN THE FIELDS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT AND
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ENERGY, INDICATE WAYS OF ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SUCH CO-OPERATION THROUGH IDENTIFICATION OF PRIORITY AREAS OF ITS DEVELOPMENT, WORK OUT PRACTICAL ACCORDS ON POOLING THE EFFORTS OF STATES FOR A MORE PURPOSEFUL AND RAPID SOLUTION OF MOST URGENT PROBLEMS. THE LIST OF PROBLEMS WHICH COULD BE, IN THE VIEW OF THE SOVIET SIDE, PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE CONGRESSES IS ATTACHED TO THIS LETTER.

THE CONGRESSES OR CONFERENCES COULD ALSO IDENTIFY THE PROBLEMS AND AREAS IN WHICH THERE IS A NEED FOR WORKING OUT AND CONCLUDING MULTILATERAL ALL-EUROPEAN TREATIES, AGREEMENTS OR CONVENTIONS AND DECIDE ON THE PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED IN THE PREPARATION OF DRAFTS OF SUCH TREATIES, AGREEMENTS OR CONVENTIONS. CERTAIN VIEWS OF THE SOVIET SIDE IN THIS REGARD ARE ALSO SET OUT IN THE ANNEX TO THIS LETTER.

THE ACCORDS ACHIEVED ON ALL THESE MATTERS COULD BE RECORDED IN THE FINAL DOCUMENTS OF THE CONGRESSES.

WE BELIEVE THAT HIGHLY QUALIFIED SPECIALISTS COMPETENT IN THEIR RESPECTIVE FIELDS SHOULD TAKE PART IN THE WORK OF THE CONGRESSES OR CONFERENCES.

THE CONGRESSES OR CONFERENCES COULD BE PREPARED AND HELD, IF THIS IS ACCEPTABLE TO ALL, THROUGH THE INSTRUMENTALITY OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE OR WITH AD HOC INTERNATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEES SET UP. BOTH ALTERNATIVES ARE ACCEPTABLE TO THE SOVIET SIDE. IN ANY CASE THE SOVIET SIDE BELIEVES THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT AND USE TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT THE EXPERIENCE AND MACHINERY OF THE ECE. IT ALSO APPEARS IMPORTANT TO ESTABLISH CLOSE CO-OPERATION ON ALL ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS BETWEEN THE ECE (OR INTERNATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEES) AND THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH WILL ACT AS HOSTS FOR THE CONGRESSES.

THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED COULD PROBABLY BE ENTRUSTED WITH A
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CONSIDERABLE PART OF THE WORK TO IMPLEMENT THE DECISIONS OF THE

CONGRESSES WHICH WOULD CONSIDERABLY RAISE THE LEVEL OF THEIR OWN ACTIVITIES.

AS TO THE SEQUENCE OF CONGRESSES, THE SOVIET SIDE IS OPEN-MINDED ON THIS MATTER: THEY COULD EITHER BE HELD APPROXIMATELY AT THE SAME TIME OR IN AN ORDER AGREED BY ALL.

OF COURSE, THE DECISIONS ACCEPTABLE AND SUITABLE TO ALL SIDES BOTH ON THE SUBJECT-MATTER OF THE ALL-EUROPEAN CONGRESSES AND ON THIS ORGANIZATIONAL ASPECTS COULD ONLY BE FOUND THROUGH A BUSINESS-LIKE DIALOGUE BETWEEN INTERESTED STATES.

IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THIS PROPOSAL HAS BEEN UNDER CONSIDERATION BY STATES FOR QUITE A LONG TIME IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO MAKE EFFORTS FOR CLARIFYING AT THE FORTHCOMING THIRTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE U.N. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE ALL THE QUESTIONS WHICH ARISE AND ATTEMPTING TO REACH PRACTICAL AGREEMENT ON HOLDING THE CONGRESSES. THIS WOULD CONSTITUTE A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTING THE FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE AND WOULD PROMOTE FURTHER IMPROVEMENT OF THE CLIMATE ON THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT WHICH IS A COMMON GOAL OF ALL STATES PARTICIPANTS IN THE CONFERENCE, PARTICULARLY IN THE LIGHT OF THE FORTHCOMING BELGRADE MEETING.

END TEXT. SORENSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION, ENERGY, RESOLUTIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA02024
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770091-1157
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770350/aaaabrpb.tel
Line Count: 250
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 GENEVA 1969
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3082650
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CSCE BASKET II - SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR ALL-EUROPEAN CONGRESSES ON ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT AND ENERGY
TAGS: PFOR, SENV, ETRN, ENRG, UR, ECE, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e4ad09b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009